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## **Evidence-based decision making to strengthen local governance: nutritional health interventions in Bantul and Gunungkidul**

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## The Governance of Nutrition in Bantul and Gunungkidul

### Top Down Approach (Bantul):

- DB4-MK – prioritises four important health problems: maternal mortality; infant mortality; Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever; and malnutrition for coordinated action.
- The Foster Program (*Bapak Asuh*) requires coordination and creates clear lines of accountability.

### Bottom Up Approach (Gunungkidul)

- Community engagement and development through education and *lumbung pangan*.



## Evidence Based Decision-Making in Public Health

- EBDM - the systematic application of the best available evidence to the decision-making process
- EBDM is important for effective and sustainable public health policy
- The capacity of governments to generate, obtain and integrate evidence into the development of nutritional policies is limited because of local decision-making cultures resistant to the use of research and unable to consolidate data

**Recommendation** - commitment at the national and district levels to increasing the development of evidence based decision-making in public health through a capacity building program at targeted at the national and district health bureaus.



## Data Consolidation

- The use of data and research results are an important part of EBDM
- The relevant local and nationally generated data is available for use, (note concerns about the accuracy and timeliness of some local data)
- When used as a basis for policy development data may be used “ego-sectorally” and there are difficulties with data consolidation

**Recommendation** - create integrated data centers to gather and consolidate valid, accurate and timely nutrition/food security data within districts and between district and national governance actors



## Improved Coordination

- Nutrition is cross-sectoral issue
- Coordination is critical to the development of effective policies that address local needs
- National policy making should be developed to include the aspirations of district governments and to support long-term planning
- Between bureaus effective coordination may require the development of cross-sectoral priorities with accountabilities for coordination

**Recommendations** - Improve coordination with the national government and develop synergies amongst national, provincial and district programs to reduce overlaps. District governments should develop measures to improve coordination between bureaus

